Olga Jno M'Cully

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NUMB. XXXVI.] THE JANUARY 5, 1788

PITTSBURGH GAZETTE

Price Six-Pence.] SATURDAY, JANUARY 5, 1788. [VOL. II.

PITTSBURGH: *Printed and Sold by* JOHN SCULL and JOHN POYD, *at their Printing-Office in Water Street, near the Ferry.*

From the Pennsylvania Packet, of December 13.

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I am, sir, your humble servant,

A. P.

Doctor FRANKLIN's last Speech in the late Federal Convention.

Mr. President,

I CONFESS that I do not entirely approve of this constitution at present; but sir, I am not sure I shall never approve of it: for having lived long, I have experienced many instances of being obliged by better information, or fuller consideration, to change opinions even on important subjects, which I once thought right, but found to be otherwise. It is, therefore, that the older I grow, the more apt I am to doubt my own judgment, and to pay more respect to the judgment of others. Most men indeed, as well as most sects in religion, think themselves in possession of all truth, & that wherever others differ from them it is so far error. Steele, a protestant, in a dedication, tells the Pope, that the only difference in our two churches, in their opinions of the certainty of their doctrines, is, the Romish church is infallible, and the church of England never is in the wrong. But though many private persons think almost as highly of their own infallibility as that of their sect, few express it so naturally as a certain French lady, who in a little dispute with her sister, said, I don't know how it happens, sister, I meet with nobody but myself that is always in the right. "Il n'y a que moi qui a toujours raison." In these sentiments, sir, I agree to this constitution, with all its faults, if they are such; because I think a general government necessary for us, and there is no form of government but what may be a blessing if well administered; and I believe further, that this is likely to be well administered for a course of years, and can only end in despotism, as other forms have done before it, when the people shall become so corrupted as to need despotic government, being incapable of any other. I doubt too whether any other convention we can obtain, may be able to make a better constitution: for when you assemble a number of men to have the advantage of their joint wisdom, you inevitably assemble with those men, all their prejudices, their passions, their errors of opinions, their local interests, and their selfish views. From such an assembly can a perfect production be expected? It therefore astonishes me, sir, to find this system approaching so near to perfection as it does, and I think it will astonish our enemies, who are waiting with confidence to hear that our councils are confounded, like those of the builders of Babel, and that our states are on the point of separation, only to meet hereafter for the purpose of cutting each others throats.

Thus I consent, sir, to this constitution because I expect no better, and because I am not sure that this is not the best. The opinions I have had of its error, I sacrifice to the public good. I have never whispered a syllable of them abroad. Within these walls they were born, and here they shall die. If every one of us in returning to our constituents were to report the objections he has had to it, and endeavour to gain partizans in support of them, we might prevent its being generally received, and thereby lose all the salutary effects and great advantages resulting naturally in our favour among foreign nations, as well as among ourselves, from our real or apparent unanimity. Much of the strength and efficiency of any government in procuring and securing happiness to the people depends on opinion, on the general opinion of the goodness of that government, as well as of the wisdom and integrity of its governors.

I hope, therefore, that for our sakes, as a part of the people, and for the sake of our posterity, we shall act heartily and unanimously in recommending this constitution wherever our influence may extend, and turn our future thoughts and endeavours to the means of having it well administered.

On the whole, sir, I cannot help expressing a wish that every member of the convention who may still have objections to it, would, with me on this occasion doubt a little of his own infallibility, and to make manifest our unanimity, put his name to this instrument.

Then the motion was made for adding the last formula, viz.

Done in Convention, by the unanimous consent, &c. which was agreed to, and added accordingly.

Foreign Intelligence.

LONDON. Oct. 2.

A MORNING paper says, general Amherst was declared to be appointed commander in chief, and advice was received of several regiments in Scotland being on their march to England.

Extract of a letter from Chatham, Oct. 1.

"Yesterdays orders were received here for the Prune frigate, of 24 guns, and Incendiary and Pluto fire ships to be fitted for sea at this port, with the greatest expedition.

"The Princess Amelia, of 80 guns, is ordered to be fitted for the reception of impressed men, till the Sandwich is ready.

"The marines have discontinued duty in this yard and there is only a boat employed as a temporary reception for impressed seamen, till a ship is ready, for that purpose.

"A fireship is likewise ordered to be fitted at Sheerness."

Warrants have been issued for taking up all disorderly persons, vagrants, and such as have no visible means of gaining a livelihood, and pressing them into his majesty's land service. These warrants are to be backed in the city by the lord mayor, and elsewhere by the proper magistrates. Whatever may be the real occasion, this measure comes seasonably in aid of the police.

Oct. 5. Wednesday the commissioners of the navy bought two large ships, built at Whitby, of 760 tons burthens, which are to be immediately brought to Deptford, and fitted out as navy store ships.

Wednesday upon the several offices of the victualling office contracted for 50,000 gallons of West India rum and 50,000 hogsheads of fish biscuit, for the use of his majesty's ships of war.

Extract of a letter from Chatham, Oct. 3.

"Yesterday captain Edgar arrived here, and put the prince George, of 90 guns, into commission at this port. The prince George is ordered to be fitted for sea with the greatest expedition; and this morning orders were received here to enter 930 men, including officers and servants for the above ship.

"Admiral Edwards is daily expected here to hoist his flag on board the Princess Amelia, of 84 guns. She is but a temporary vessel appointed for receiving impressed men, till the Sandwich, of 90 guns, is ready for that purpose, when admiral Edwards will hoist his flag on board the latter at the Nore.

"The Sandwich will be put out of dock the next spring tide."

Orders have been issued by the king of France, recalling all officers of the French service at present resident in England, to join their respective corps, which order was communicated to them on Wednesday, through the medium of his most Christian majesty's charge des affairs.

The last authentic advices from the Cape of Good Hope, state, that the French were about to evacuate that fortress; so that unless orders have been sent out to the contrary, it is probable that the batavian flag is at this moment, flying on that important promontory.

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patches, that he suffers no person whatever to see them, and even takes the trouble of copying them himself.

The KING of SPAIN's DEATH.

A private letter from an Irish house at Malaga advises, that orders were arrived to hang the cathedrals and collegiate churches throughout every one of the twenty provinces of Spain, with black cloth, or baize, where that mourning is to remain for twelve months. The foreign consuls have erected a black fog over the arms of their sovereigns, which are fixed at their doors, and every thing carries an aspect of the most unfeigned regret for the late king. The mercantile interest has peculiar obligations to the departed prince, who, though not under any legal tie by the constitution of Spain, paid every shilling of his father's debts, to the amount of twenty millions, by yearly instalments from the royal treasury; an instance of benevolence and justice capable of covering many faults, and which the kingdom can never forget. His majesty dying at the palace of Escurial, 22 miles from Madrid, had but a short way to his grave, as all the royal family have been interred in the chapel which stands at one of the courts, since the building of that sumptuous edifice by Philip the IId. in 1559.

The most experienced politicians on the continent are of opinion, that the death of his late Catholic majesty, will produce some changes in the present system of affairs. The young king, Charles prince of Asturias, born November 11, 1748, married September 4, 1765, to the princess Louisa of Parma, who was born December [illegible] 1751, and by her royal highness he has had 12 children, has applied with uncommon diligence to the business of the cabinet these four or five years, and in effect governed the Spanish monarchy with a wisdom not often found in persons of his age. He is, besides, of an enterprising spirit, and gives broad hints that he will attempt uniting to the crown every atom of its ancient rights, some part of which is possessed by England. This may account for the report circulated in London, that Jamaica was to be attacked early in the next summer.

American Occurrences.

BOSTON, November 28.

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NEW-YORK, December 19.

We hear that a person lately arrived in this city from Canada, reports, that lord Dorchester has strongly fortified an island at the mouth of the river St. Lawrence, and planted the island all round with three tier of cannon, from 18 to 42 pounders; his lordship being apprehensive of a visit from the Bailli de Suffrein, accompanied by the Toulon squadron, which consists of 17 ships of the line, besides fifties, corvettes, bomb ketches and fire ships, together with a large number of transports and store ships loaded with a numerous train of battering cannon, of five enormous.

Report also says, that the French ministry have applied to the American ambassador at Versailles, requesting him to solicit Congress in the name of his most Christian majesty, for permission to march a body of 15,000 French troops through the state of New-York to Canada. It is likewise said they have asked the loan of 7000 American troops to act in conjunction with the French army, for the purpose of reducing the province of Canada to [illegible]

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PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 28.

A letter from Baltimore, dated the 22d inſtant ſays, "By a veſſel juſt arrived from Nevis, after a ſhort paſſage, we are informed of a frigate having arrived in 20 days from England with diſpatches, which mention an engagement to have happened between the Engliſh and French fleets upon the coaſt of Holland."

Dec. 10. A correſpondent yeſterday favored us with the following important information:

"The deputies to the ſtate convention of Delaware met at Dover on Monday the 3d inſtant, December, and a houſe being formed, they elected James Latimer, eſquire, preſident. On Thurſday they ratified the new federal conſtitution by an unanimous vote, and on Friday every member ſigned the ratification as follows:

"WE, the deputies of the people of the Delaware ſtate, in convention met, having taken into our ſerious conſideration the federal conſtitution propoſed and agreed upon by the deputies of the United States in a general convention, held at the city of Philadelphia, on the ſeventeenth day of September, in the year of our Lord one thouſand ſeven hundred and eighty-ſeven, have approved of, aſſented to, ratified and confirmed, and by theſe preſents DO, in virtue of the power and authority to us given for that purpoſe, for, and in behalf of ourſelves and our conſtituents, fully, freely, and entirely approve of, aſſent to, ratify and confirm the ſaid Conſtitution."

Dec. 15. A correſpondent ſays, "it is worthy of remark, that amongſt the various claſſes of citizens who conſider their intereſts and happineſs eſſentially combined with and dependent upon the adoption of the propoſed conſtitution for the United States of America, the ſhip carpenters of Philadelphia have given the moſt irrefragable proof of their approbation of the ſame, by conducting, on the evening of its ratification by this ſtate, a veſſel on wheels through the ſtreets of this city, decorated with flags and inſignia emblematical of their fixed expectation of the revival of commerce and navigation under this happy government.

Extract of a letter from Trenton, Dec. 19.

"Our convention met on Tueſday, and by a reſolution requeſted the Rev. Mr Armſtrong to open the buſineſs of the day by prayer: thus you ſee we have public prayers in greater eſtimation in New Jerſey than they were held in Pennſylvania, notwithſtanding the members of our convention conſiſt like yours of gentlemen of different religious ſects. John Stevens, eſq. is elected preſident, and Samuel Stockton, eſq. ſecretary to the convention."

Pittſburgh, January 5.

The following is the Ratification, by the convention of this ſtate, of the propoſed plan of government for the United States:

In the Name of the People of Pennſylvania

BE it known unto all men, that we, the delegates of the people of the commonwealth of Pennſylvania, in general convention aſſembled, have aſſented to and ratified, and by theſe preſents do, in the name and by the authority of the ſame people, and for ourſelves, aſſent to and ratify the foregoing conſtitution for the United States of America.

Done in Convention, the 12th day of December, in the year 1787, and of the Independence of the United States of America, the twelfth.

In witneſs whereof, &c.

On the 18th of December, the Convention of this ſtate paſſed the following reſolution:

Reſolved, That when the conſtitution propoſed by the late general convention ſhall have been organized, this commonwealth will cede to the Congreſs, the juriſdiction over any place in Pennſylvania, not exceeding ten miles ſquare, which with the conſent of the inhabitants, the Congreſs may chuſe for the ſeat of the government of the United States.

The above reſolution was referred to Meſſrs. Wilſon, Macpherſon, Gray, Wynkoop, Coleman, Wayne Grier, Morris, and Pickering.

EPIGRAM.

THE land was doubly tax'd we thought,
To carry on the war;
Now war is to a period brought,
Still more our taxes are.

Strange conduct this! all muſt allow;
Huſh! let your murmurs ceaſe;
You pay theſe double taxes now
To carry on the peace.

The difference 'twixt that and this
Is only in the name,
For tho' the great make war or peace,
The people bear the blame.

LEGISLATIVE BON MOT.

A MEMORIAL from the college of phyſicians, praying a compoſition to the general aſſembly, againſt the exceſſive uſe of ſpirituous liquors, was taken up for a ſecond reading, and having occaſioned ſome warm and animated debate in that learned body, it was propoſed to give the memorialiſts leave to bring in a bill. "No, not exclaimed Mr. Peters, I hope the houſe will never agree to that, for I am ſure I have ſtarted enough already under the bills of their bringing in."

A SCHOOL,

IS opened at the Houſe of Mr. M'NICKEL, in Front ſtreet, in which will be taught the Latin Language, Reading Engliſh Grammatically, Writing and Arithmetic, by

THOMAS TOUSEY.

Pittſburgh, January 4, 1788.

N. B. An Evening School is alſo kept in the ſame Houſe.

John Ashton & Co.

HAVE removed their ſtore to Washington, Captain George M'Cormick's, where they are now opening a freſh Aſſortment of Goods, ſuitable to the ſeaſon, which they will ſell on reaſonable terms for pork, whiſky, country linen, hemp, flax, all kinds of furs, ſkins, &c.

Said company will open a ſtore at Mr John Baldwin's, on Miſſiſſippi, about the 10th of January, 1788, where they will receive for goods, wheat, rye, and all the uſual commodities of articles. Thoſe who pleaſe to favor them with their cuſtom may depend on being ſupplied on the moſt reaſonable terms.

All perſons indebted to ſaid company are deſired to come in and ſettle their accounts immediately.

Town of Waſhington, Dec. 29, 1787.

CAME to the plantation of the ſubſcriber, living at the mouth of Dunkard creek, three CALVES, one ſuppoſed to be two years old next ſpring, the other two yearlings. The owner may have them again by proving property and paying charges.

THOMAS GIBSON.

Weſtmoreland County, June 2, 1788.

ALL perſons indebted to Alexander Wilkins, Eſq. are requeſted to attend the immediate ſettlement of their accounts, otherwiſe ſuits will commence againſt them. Thoſe who deſire and give bond upon intereſt will be taken part with the 1ſt of May next, a regiſter of which will be kept at the meſſuages which will be very diſagreeable to us and expenſive to them. The great deficiency in payments to the eſtate and the preſent ſcarcity of caſh obliges us to declare that no further credit will be given, therefore no complaints will be offended.

BLAIN, WILKINS & Co.

We continue to ſell goods on the loweſt terms for caſh or country produce.

Juſt Publiſhed and to be Sold at the Printing Office, Pittſburgh, the

PITTSBURGH ALMANAC,

OR

WESTERN EPHEMERIS,

For the Year of our Lord 1788.

Which may be had at the Printing Office Pittſburgh, Wholeſale and Retail, on the moſt reaſonable Terms.

*** The calculations for this Almanac are made with the greateſt exactneſs to anſwer the meridian of the Weſtern Country.

AN OFFICE

For the Purchaſe and Sale of the various kinds of Continental and State Certificates. Alſo Houſes, Lots and Lands, by

MATTHEW M'CONNEL,

ON the eaſt ſide of Second ſtreet, between Market and Cheſnut ſtreets, ſeven doors below Black Horſe-alley, Philadelphia. Who furniſhes Certificates for the Land Office, and will carry the warrants through, clear of any commiſſion.

All applications and orders from perſons reſiding in any part of this, or of the United States, will be punctually attended to; whether to make purchaſes or ſales, payments in the land office, or to receive intereſt at the continental loan office or ſtate treaſury.

FROM the impoſſibility of ſurveying for thoſe who would chuſe to have lots and begin immediately to build thereon, the proprietors are induced to have the ſame laid out much ſooner than was firſt propoſed.

Elizabeth-Town

On the Monongahela (formerly the Newſtone) is now regularly laid out into lots of 60 by 120 feet, with ſundry out lots of nearly the ſame dimenſions, a draft of the ſame may be ſeen with the proprietors at Pittſburgh, or the town on the ground.

Conditions to be offered, are, that on each of the twenty lots given, an houſe muſt be built 18 feet ſquare, brick or ſtone, by 23 feet, one ſtory and an half high, the ſame muſt be erected within one year from and after the delivery of the deeds, or the lots forfeited. All the lots will be ſold at three pounds each, except the corner lots, they are to be ſold at four pounds each in ſpecie, reſerving one annual quit rent of three ſhillings and ſixpence, ſpecie. And for the encouragement of the firſt 20 purchaſers who build within the time before limited, an out lot will be given to each, adjoining the town on the land ſide of the town lots: and to prevent a monopoly, not more than two lots will be ſold to any one perſon.

Payment for the lots will be received either in caſh or country produce at market price, on delivery of the deeds; by

BAYARD & M'KAY.

Pittſburgh, Dec. 18, 1787.

TO BE SOLD,

A Plantation containing upwards of 300 acres of land, ſituate on Sawickly creek in Weſtmoreland county, about forty acres cleared, 12 of which is good meadow, and 30 or 40 acres more may be made; on which is one good and new mill called Perry's Mill, a good two ſtory dwelling houſe, kitchen, barn and full houſe; it is a good place for a tavern or ſtore, as the public roads leading from Bedford to Pittſburgh, from Ligonier to Simeral's ferry and to Greenſburgh. Likewiſe one other plantation in the ſame county, containing about 300 acres, between 60 and 70 in the firſt rate bottom on the Monongahela river, 45 acres cleared, 25 of which is good timothy meadow, the upland is chiefly walnut, on it is a good merchant mill, within about 200 yards of the Monongahela river, now in order for making merchantable flour, a dwelling houſe and mill houſe, and ſeveral other out houſes, it is well ſituate for public buſineſs as tranſporting flour down the river; there is a ferry kept there, and public roads leading from it to Pittſburgh, which is 15 miles diſtant, to Waſhington, to Union Town in Fayette county, to Simeral and Budd's ferries on Youghiogeny, 7 miles, and good tides will be given for both. Alſo ſeveral other tracts ſome improved and ſome unimproved. Any perſon inclining to purchaſe may know the terms by applying to John Perry at Braddock's Fields, or the ſubſcriber on the premiſes.

JAMES PERRY.

STRAYED away from the ſubſcriber about the 1ſt of May, living near the Rev. Mr. Smith's meeting houſe on Buffalo waters, a bay Mare, about 15 hands high, ſeven or eight years old, natural pacer. Whoever takes up ſaid Mare ſo that the owner may get her again, ſhall receive Two Dollars Reward and reaſonable charges paid by

SAMUEL [illegible].

Dec. 15.